



DATE: August 12, 1982
TO: Division File
FROM: Jeff Stofferahn
SUBJECT: 19780304 - Will County - Lemont/Union Oil



On 6/25/82 Kevin Pierard and myself, DLPC, met Linda Kißsenger, DLPC Permit Section; Mary Drake, Enforcement Programs, Jay Patel, DWPC; and Larry Stearns, DWPC, Permit Section, in Romeoville to discuss the subject site prior to an on-site meeting. Union Oil has applied for a permit from DWPC to land apply sludge generated at the Lemont Facility. Past landfarming of this sludge has caused an out-cry from local residents, and their was concern about the possible hazardous nature of some of the sludge. As a result of this meeting, we compiled a list of items of concern pursuant to their permit application which we wished to look further into. These items are as follows:

- As mentioned above, the Agency is not satisfied with Union Oil's claim that all the sludges are non-hazardous, thus we planned to obtain samples.
- Larry mentioned that DWPC is considering their operation as a type of treatment. Thus, a more concrete idea of the capacity of the system (i.e. how much the land will be able to decompose, attenuate, etc., before significant release of contaminants can be expected) must be submitted.
- A sub-surface soil profile submitted within the application appears to over-extrapolate, given the limited amount of available data from the well logs. Specifically, their claim of the discontinuity of certain permeable seams must be substantiated by remote sensing techniques.
- An intermittent stream passes by the landfarming area. Larry had heard that there may be bedrock outcrops along this creek.
- We wanted to see how easily accessible the landfarming area is from the south. The nearest residential area is directly to the south.
- We wished also to check on the land use and drainage east of the present landfarming area.

From Romeoville, we drove to the small subdivision south of the landfarming area. We walked to the sludge drying pits just east and southeast of the active landfarming area. Here we found that the areas presently in use are fenced off, and access adequately restricted.

We then drove to Union Oil's office and met Leo Erchvll, Environmental Science Analyst with Union Oil. We informed him that we wanted to tour the site then discuss a few items with him. He informed us that we were cleared to take samples, but could not take photos, as this had not been cleared through Union's management.

We initially visited the landfarming area and sludge drying beds on the east side of the site. Soil was being disced at (A) at this time. The crops and other land conditions are noted on the diagram. East of the present landfarming areas, the topography slopes to the east-southeast (note intermittent stream on diagram). The rye field just east of the sludge drying beds was used as late as 2 years ago for landfarming. The sludge beds presently contain a composite of various sludges from the plant. The stream on the north side of this area was looked at. No bedrock outcroppings were found. The sediment in the unflooded and flooded sections of the stream bed was sampled. A thin surficial layer of light colored clay was found over a thick layer of black much which possessed a strong petroleum odor. It was this much which was sampled (X101-1:30 p.m.).

From here we drove around the east and north sides of the site (on Smith Road and 127th Street, then proceeded to the sludge drying beds at (B). A sample was taken from each of the 2 beds (X102-2:00 p.m. and X103-2:20 p.m.). We noted that bedrock was exposed on the east wall of the coke storage pit east-southeast of these beds. We also looked at the channel which drained the storm water pond into the nearby I and M Canal. An oily slick was noted atop this water entering the canal. The sludge which was sampled originates from cleaning the storm water ponds, per Mr. Erchvll.

We then sampled the sludge from the sites waste water treatment plant (X104-2:50 p.m.). Afterwards, we discussed the points of concern that we had earlier formulated, with Mr. Erchvll.

JAS:prb

cc: Linda Kissenger
Kevin Pierard
Northern Region